

1 **Remarks/Arguments**

2 Claims 1-4 as originally filed have been rejected as either anticipated by or rendered
3 obvious by the Schoenfelder reference.

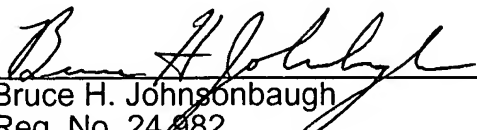
4 Independent claim 2 has been amended and independent claim 1 has been canceled
5 without prejudice. Amended claim 2 emphasizes the critical aspects of the present invention
6 that are simply not taught nor suggested by Schoenfelder. Schoenfelder provides an
7 "electrical" credit redeemable only with the electrical utility company. In particular, the present
8 invention provides an energy brokerage house that is totally separate and distinct from the
9 electrical utility company. The energy brokerage house is capable of providing, in addition to
10 "electrical" credits, redeemable energy credits for gasoline, propane and various non-electrical
11 sources of energy as well as cash value and/or mass transit tickets. The entire purpose of the
12 present invention, as stated at page 1 of the specification, is "to provide an energy credit
13 system to stimulate and expand the use of renewable energy sources by consumers." (page
14 1, lines 15-16)

15 By expanding the goods and services for which a consumer may redeem excess power
16 fed into the electric power grid, applicant believes the interest in residential and small business
17 renewable power sources will be greatly stimulated. At present, consumers who acquire solar
18 energy systems are essentially limited to electrical credits redeemable by the power company
19 as taught by Schoenfelder.

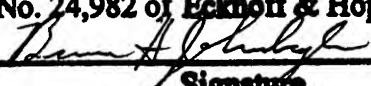
20 The undersigned submits that the Schoenfelder patent was published in 1978. More
21 than twenty years have elapsed since the publishing of that patent and the undersigned is
22 simply unaware of any prior art which teaches or suggests the variety of energy credits or
23 mass transit credits that may be made available to consumers through an energy brokerage
24 house as provided by the present invention. If the present invention is an obvious variation
25 of Schoenfelder, why has not such a system been either patented or put into practice?
26

1 For the above reasons, the undersigned submits that the remaining claims in the
2 application, i.e., claims 2-4, are patentable over the Schoenfelder reference. Favorable action
3 is requested.

4
5 Respectfully submitted,

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